



Ghent is a town with so much history that a one day visit is inadequate. The reception staff speak excellent English and were courteous and helpful." The Roberts Family.

Campsite Contact Details:

Camping Blaarmeersen

Campinglaan 16

B-9000 Ghent

Belgium

Tel: 00 32 92 66 81 60



Arrival Procedure

Select Sites customers should go straight to the campsite reception on arrival where they will be required to fill in a registration form. Reception, where English is spoken, is open from 8.00 a.m. until 6.30pm in low season and from 8am to 10pm in July and August. Customers unavoidably delayed, arriving after the barrier is down (11pm to 8am) should leave the car outside the site and go to the main campsite reception to speak to security or to the bar to find a member of staff. We advise that you ring ahead to warn the campsite if you expect to arrive late. It is possible to exit the site from 6am, but you cannot drive onto the site before 8am.

Don't forget we're on the end of the phone if you need us

Call 0044 1606 787 666

our office hours are:

Monday- Friday

Saturdays

Sundays & Bank Holidays

9.00 am - 5.30 pm

10.00 am - 2.00 pm

closed

Life On Site

Camping Blaarmeersen is a leafy suburban municipal campsite on the outskirts of the city of Gent, with good road links. The area immediately around the site is of great ecological value and the site places great emphasis on being environmentally friendly, encouraging natural planting and habitats.

Useful Information

- **Swimming pool:** There is no swimming pool on site. The nearest indoor swimming pool is 3km away and there is a lake in the adjacent nature reserve where an area (300m long) has been partitioned off for swimming.
- **Washblocks:** There are five wash blocks on site, which are unisex facilities. Young children must be accompanied to the toilet blocks by their parents. Please note, most campsites do not provide toilet paper in the wash blocks and some campsite sanitary blocks do not provide toilet seats.
- **Barbecues:** Charcoal, Gas and Electric barbecues are all allowed on your pitch, provided they are raised off the ground on legs.
- **Gas bottles:** These cannot be exchanged on site.
- **Internet access:** There is Wifi cover in the bar, restaurant and reception.
- **Motorhome service point:** There is a Motorhome service point on site
- **Electricity:** There will be a 10 amp standard European (blue 3 pin) electricity connection available within 30m of your pitch.
- **Dogs:** A maximum of 3 dogs are allowed on your pitch, but must be kept on a lead. If you require any up-to-date information on taking your dog abroad, please get in touch. We'd be happy to book any necessary vets appointments on your behalf.

Campsite Activities and Entertainment

We have picked out a few things to do on site that may be of interest to you. For a full list of campsite activities, please refer to our brochure or website.

During the day

Fishing is available on the lake and in the River Lys. Please note, a permit is required and you can only fish from one of the 64 fishing spots/platforms around the lake. Night fishing is not allowed.

Walking – there is a network of footpaths through the nature reserve. There is also an orientation course with 15 checkpoints.

Football – there are a number football fields with artificial grass in the recreation centre.

Tennis – there are 10 indoor courts and 7 outdoor courts at the Blaarmeersen centre, as well as 4 squash courts. These are all open to the public and should be pre-booked.

During the evening

There is no organised entertainment on site.

Excursions

There are no organized excursions from this site.

Food and Drink

There is a pleasant modern restaurant and bar combined on site, which has both indoor and outdoor seating areas. A take-away service (offering French fries, hamburgers and sandwiches) is also available. There is also a café at the recreation centre next to the site. The site restaurant, bar and take-away are all open from early March to late September.

Shopping

There is a small grocery shop on site for your basic shopping needs, which is open from early March to mid October.



For more comprehensive information about the campsite or local area **before you travel**, please feel free to contact us. We are always happy to help. Further information can also be found on our website.

call: 0844 406 9876

click: www.select-site.co.uk

Please be aware that in the early and late season, the complete range of activities may not be available. Any opening times are for guidance only, as these may vary and are subject to change by the campsite owner. Please check at reception on arrival.

European Drivers' Kit

It's compulsory to carry certain items when driving in Europe, so we've gathered together some of the essentials you'll need in this handy pack for just £14.99 inc P&P.

Call 0844 406 9876 to order yours

* Please note this must be purchased up to two weeks prior to departure. You must read the terms and conditions on our website before placing an order by telephone

just £14.99

inc p&p



Around & About

This site is ideally placed for exploring the lovely city of Gent. It has excellent transport links, with buses running past the campsite to Gent city centre and railway station every 15-30 minutes during the day and every 30 minutes in the evening until 11pm.

While you're here try...

Belgium Chocolate. Belgium chocolate is amongst the best in the world and the country makes over 172,000 tons of chocolate each year which is sold in over 2000 shops. Most desserts served in Belgium involve pastries or chocolate!

Waffles. Waffles are extremely popular. The true Belgian waffle is baked using special waffle irons and there are two types: the Brussels waffle is rectangular in shape, golden brown on the outside and eaten with a knife and fork. It is often served with sugar, whipped cream, ice-cream, strawberries and chocolate. The Liège waffle is denser in texture, has a burnt sugar coating on the outside and is served by street vendors throughout the country

Beer. For such a small country, you may be surprised to hear that Belgium produces over 450 types of beer. Many beers are served in their own uniquely designed glasses.

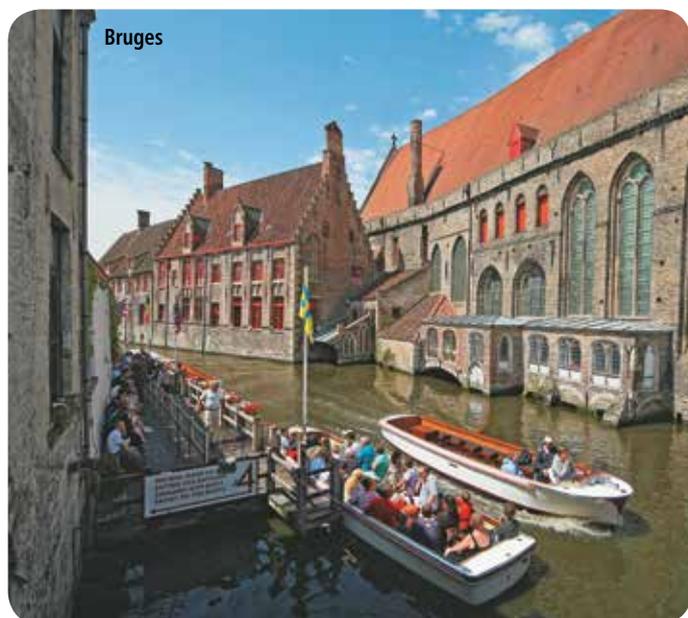


Where to Shop

Gent city has all the wonderful shopping opportunities you would expect, from big chain stores to authentic boutiques. A pedestrianised shopping area covers a large part of the city centre, while the Patershol area is a medieval neighbourhood with a great atmosphere and is the city's culinary hotspot. For every day shopping there are many large supermarkets as well as dozens of bakeries, butchers, fishmongers and delicatessens.

Local market days (usually mornings only) are as follows:

There are daily markets in Gent all week and on Sunday mornings you have six markets to choose from with everything from second hand books to antique furniture as well as the Sunday flower market at the Kouter. For information on all the markets see the visitgent website: www.visitgent.be/en/markets?from_category=3353&context=tourist



Sporting Activities

- **Golf** – the Royal Latem Golf Club is an 18 hole parkland course just 12km from the site, which welcomes visitors from all over Europe. www.latemgolf.be
- **Hot Air Balloon** – there are a number of companies offering hot air balloon rides to give you a bird's eye view of Gent. For more information, see the Sightseeing page on www.visitgent.be

Must Sees and Dos

Please see your European Guide for additional information about your local area.

Gent - 5 km

The historic city centre is filled with wonderful buildings; at night they are illuminated in a carefully orchestrated display, so it is worth staying on as dark falls, to experience this. The Castle of the Counts is an imposing medieval stronghold in the heart of the city, and St Bavo's Cathedral houses an impressive collection of art treasures and you get a fantastic view of the city from the top of the tower once you climb up the 444 steps. The Patershol district is in the shadow of the Castle of the Counts and its medieval streets and alleyways house numerous little restaurants and bars. The city centre is split by canals and waterways and there are no less than 5 different companies offering boat tours of different lengths and themes, providing a really relaxing way to explore this beautiful centre. www.visitgent.be

Bruges - 48 km

Known as the Venice of the North, Bruges is one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. In 2000 UNESCO included the entire historic city centre on the World Heritage List. You get a real sense of history as you explore the maze of winding, cobbled alleys and romantic canals. One of the best ways to explore is to take a short boat cruise along the canals, which form some of the main arteries of the city. Bruges is also known as the world capital of chocolate; there are 49 chocolate boutiques, a chocolate museum, a chocolate trail and a chocolate fair (which takes place every year in April). www.brugge.be

Antwerp - 62 km

Antwerp is a charming medieval town. The Antwerp Zoo is one of the oldest and best known zoos in Europe and you need at least half a day to see it properly; there are 950 species and over 5,000 animals living here in a green oasis next to Central Station. At 'Diamondland' you can watch professional diamond polishers and setters at work in free guided tours and of course you can always take a souvenir home! www.visitantwerpen.be

Brussels - 60 km

With a population of approximately 1 million people, this is a large, vibrant, cosmopolitan city with a long history. There are almost 90 museums, a zoo, many beautiful parks, fascinating walks and lots of trendy restaurants and bars. One of its most famous attractions is the bronze statue the 'Mannekin Pis' or 'Peeing Boy', which attracts thousands of visitors every year and is celebrated in many festivals. On the last count there are over 700 costumes for this little bronze boy! www.visitbrussels.be

Ypres (now known as Leper) - 81 km

This city is close to the Flanders Field battle site where, in World War 1, a million soldiers were wounded, killed or listed as 'missing in action'. The Last Post is sounded at the Menin Gate in Ypres every evening at 8pm, as it has been every day since 1928. You can take a guided tour of the battlefield, or visit the Flanders Field museum or one of the many other memorial sights. www.visitflanders.co.uk

Events

Gent International Jazz Festival mid July.

This festival features international artists; in the first week the program unites some of the best jazz performers in the world, while the second weeks gathers groups playing music related to jazz, for example soul and electronic music. www.gentjazz.com/en

Gent Flanders Festival from mid to late September.

Attracting over 55,000 visitors each year, this festival celebrates a diverse mix of music with over 180 concerts featuring both classical and 'world' music by more than 1500 international artists. www.gentfestival.be

Please note: Select sites has not vetted any off site activities. Customers should undertake their own safety checks.

Getting To Your Site

Location: On the outskirts of the city of Gent, not far from the R4 main road.

Directions:

From Eastbound on the E40 Ostend to Brussels motorway.

Take Exit 13 Drongen for the N466 heading towards Deinze. After 240m turn left onto Baarledorpstraat/N466. Continue to follow the N466 and go through 1 roundabout. After 4.7km take the exit onto Paddelstraat. After 78m turn right to stay on Paddelstraat. After 35m take a slight right onto Westerlaan. After 290m take the ramp to De Blaarmeersen. After 71m take a slight left onto Campinglaan street. This is a long road running next to a water sports canal, the campsite is on a minor road off this street - drive slowly! Look out for a very large square grey building (which houses the tallest climbing wall in Europe). Next to this building is a minor road (un-named) with a small brown sign for Blaarmeersen. Take this turning and keep following it round until you come to the campsite.

From Westbound on the E40 motorway coming from Brussels.

Take exit 14 Sint Denijs-Westrem for the N43 heading towards the R4/ Zelzate/Eeklo/St-Martens-Latem. After 550m follow signs for Deinze. After 160m keep left at the fork, following signs for R4/ Zelzate/Eeklo and merge onto the Adolphe Pégoudlaan/B402. Go through 1 roundabout and after 1.6km merge onto the R4 via the ramp to Zelzate/Eeklo/Haven 6000-9990. After 3km take exit Drongen towards E40/ N466/Brussel/Oostende/Gent. After 140m take a sharp right onto Campinglaan street and follow the directions as above.



New Law re Breathalysers in France

Please be aware there is a new law coming in to force from 1st July 2012 that makes it **COMPULSORY** for all motorists in FRANCE to carry a single use breathalyser. We advise that if you are travelling to (or through) France you should carry at least two disposable breathalysers in order to comply with this new law. The breathalysers you purchase must comply to French regulations and will carry the 'French certification mark' 'NF'. These should be purchased prior to departure in the UK but can also be purchased on the ferry, in most French supermarkets, service/petrol stations or chemists. You could receive an on-the-spot fine if you cannot produce this product when asked.

GPS co ordinates:
51.047438 / 3.680077 (lat./long.)

Campsite location

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the GPS coordinates provided, we strongly advise you cross-reference your end destination with the map above and the campsite address before you commence your journey.



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Extract from Map - 533

Key Dates

Belgium Public (Bank) Holidays 2015

Sunday 5th April - Easter Sunday (Pâques)
Monday 6th April - Easter Monday (Lundi de Pâques)
Friday 1st May - Labour Day (Fête du Travail)
Thursday 14th May - Ascension Day (Ascension Catholique)
Sunday 24th May - Whit Sunday (Pentecôte)
Monday 25th May - Whit Monday (Lundi de Pentecôte)
Tuesday 21st July - Belgian National Day (Jour Nationale de Belgique)
Saturday 15th August - Assumption of Mary (Assomption)

Belgium organisations and businesses close on public holidays. Although some shopping centres and grocers open for part of the day, the majority of shops do not. Police stations and hospitals do not close. When a public holiday falls on a Thursday or Tuesday, it is common practice to "make the bridge" by taking the Friday or Monday off as well, so creating a very long weekend.

Handy Hints and Tips

Shop Opening & Closing - The classic shopping days are Monday to Saturday, with shops generally open from 9 a.m. to Midday, and 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Stores generally close on Sundays.

Please Note - Although some larger stores or those in popular tourist areas may remain open at lunchtimes and Sundays, this is optional and not guaranteed.

Dialling Codes - If dialling the UK use 00 44 and drop the first 0 from the dialling code. If dialling The Republic of Ireland use 00 353 and drop the first 0 from the dialling code.

Tourist Information Office

Tourist office Ghent. Crypt of the Belfry, Botermarkt 17A, B-9000 Ghent.
Tel 00 32 9266 5660

Every effort has been made to ensure the information provided in this guide, to the best of our knowledge, is both helpful and correct at the time of going to press.

Important Information

Car breakdown - Please note that in the event of breakdown all customers insured through Select Sites should consult their Insurance Terms and Conditions booklet. Campsite reception will have information of local garages.

Due to recent European legislation it is now a requirement when driving in Europe that all cars need to carry a reflective jacket at all times. These reflective jackets can be purchased almost everywhere in Europe for approx 8 to 15 Euros each.

Personal Injury The chances of you and your family either having an accident or becoming the victims of crime whilst on holiday are extremely low. However, you should encourage the members of your party to take the same sensible precautions that they would do at home.

Try to avoid walking alone at night, and keep to well-lit main roads where possible. You should try to avoid short cuts like alleyways, waste ground and wooded, bushy areas. Stay alert: be aware of what's going on around you.

It is always worth letting someone know where you are going, the route you intend to take and when you expect to return.

We want you to have a safe holiday - please read campsite notices carefully and ensure all members of your party understand the rules and regulations as they are there for your own safety.

Emergency Information

Emergencies. In the event of an emergency please contact the main campsite reception for details of local emergency services.

Doctors	Gent	Tel: 0032 9236 5000
Dentist	Cleymaet Roberto Dental Center, Gent	Tel: 0032 9233 2215
Hospital	Jan Palfijn Hospital Gent	Tel: 0032 9224 8967
Vet	Jan Pieter Vandenbussche, Brugsesteenweg 330, Gent	Tel: 0032 9227 6694